

Around a little garden back of the pavilion were found the following weeds: *Acalypha gracilens*, *Acalypha ostryaefolia*, *Pyrrhopappus carolinianus*, *Sida rhombifolia*, *Amaranthus spinosus*, *Datura Stramonium* and *Physalis pubescens*.

Following is the list of grasses and sedges collected on the island. Most of them were indentified by Professor A. S. Hitchcock, to whom I wish to express my thanks.

<i>Cynodon Dactylon</i> (L.) Pers.	<i>Fimbristylis spadicea</i> (L.) Vahl
<i>Eleusine indica</i> (L.) Gaertn.	<i>Leptochloa fascicularis</i> (Lam.)
<i>Spartina polystachya</i> (Michx.)	Gray
Ell.	<i>Distichlis spicata</i> (L.) Greene
<i>Panicum virgatum</i> L.	<i>Syntherisma filiforme</i> (L.) Nash
<i>Panicum lanuginosum</i> Ell.	<i>Paspalum altissimum</i> LeConte
<i>Panicum amarum</i> Ell.	<i>Uniola laxa</i> (L.) B. S. P.
<i>Panicum agrostoides</i> Spreng.	<i>Uniola paniculata</i> L.
<i>Scleria triglomerata</i> Michx.	<i>Cenchrus tribuloides</i> L.
<i>Stenotaphrum dimidiatum</i> (L.)	<i>Spartina patens</i> (Ait.) Muhl.
Brong.	<i>Cyperus pseudovegetus</i> Steud.
<i>Phleum pratense</i> L.	<i>Cyperus esculentus</i> L.
<i>Sporobolus indicus</i> (L.) R. Br.	<i>Cyperus Nuttallii</i> Eddy
<i>Sporobolus virginicus</i> L.	

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SHORTER NOTES

NAMES OF INSECTS. — It is continually observed, that when entomologists have occasion to refer to plants, they seem to think that "any old name" will do. For example, Dr. H. G. Dyar has in Proc. U. S. Nat. Museum, 1902, an article on larvae of moths found in Colorado. The entomological part of the article is admirable; but some of the references to the plants on which the caterpillars fed are extraordinary. The queerest error occurs on page 409, where *Onosmodium* is metamorphosed into *Pnosmodium*, and a new moth bred from it is actually named *Gracilaria pnosmodiella* by Mr. Busck! Opposed as I am to changing the form of names, I shall feel obliged to refer to this insect as *Gracilaria onosmodiella*. Having admitted the sins o

entomologists (and I myself have sometimes been led astray), I must confess that botanists are rarely observed to err when referring to insects; but this no doubt is because they rarely refer to them. Unfortunately, the July issue of *TORREYA*, pp. 119-123, contains an article the entomology in which is no better than the botany in the paper cited above. The plant-louse called *Aphis crataegi* may have been *Macrosiphum crataegi* (*Siphonophora crataegi*, Monell, 1879), hitherto known from the Central States, or it may have been *Aphis crataegifoliae* Fitch, or *A. fitchii* Sanderson, or something else. That the ants were the Mexican *Myrmecocystus* (not "*Myrmicocystis*") *melliger* Llave, one may venture to doubt. *Podabrus pruinosus* LeConte (not "*pruniasus*") has long been known to be a synonym of *P. tomentosus* Say. It is *Coccinella*, not "*Coxinella*"; and *Diabrotica soror* is not a ladybird, but is a plant-feeder of the family Chrysomelidae.

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A NOTE REGARDING THE DISCHARGE OF SPORES OF *PLEUROTUS OSTREATUS*. — A few evenings since a friend brought me a fine plant of the above species, consisting of about twenty-five pileoli, growing from a common base and arranged in the form of a large rosette, about twelve inches in diameter and of about the same height. Knowing the plant to be very fresh, not yet forty-eight hours old, I decided to keep it and cook it upon the following day. For the night it was left upon my study table, in the same position in which it grew (gills downward). Early the next morning my attention was called to the plant by my wife who asked me to come and observe it. It happened to be exposed to a very strong morning sunlight, which entered the window three or four feet away. The spores were arising from the plant like tiny spirals of smoke or steam, to the height of two or three feet, making to us a very strange sight. At first I doubted if the "smoke" was really the spores, but after a careful microscopic examination of some which were caught upon a slide this point was definitely settled. Perhaps other agarics spore in a similar manner, but never having had conditions favorable before I cannot say. Certainly the fact was interesting to me and for this

reason I publish it. I have upon numerous occasions observed the momentary expulsion of spores from fungi such as *Bulgaria rufa* and *Sarcoscypha floccosa*, but with these plants the spore-discharge seems to occur when they are first touched, and then only.

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EAST HARTFORD, CONN.,

July 27, 1905.

REVIEWS

Mutants and Hybrids of the *Oenotheras**

The literature of mutation grows apace. One of the latest contributions to the subject is a publication of the Carnegie Institution of Washington with the above title. The work is copiously illustrated with many fine half-tone plates and cuts. Professor MacDougal a year or two ago secured seeds of *Oenothera Lamarckiana* and several other mutants from Professor de Vries in Amsterdam. In a carefully guarded and securely enclosed experimental ground at the New York Botanical Garden experiments were instituted to determine the influence of American conditions on the mutants of *Oenothera* secured by de Vries. The results of the work of Professor MacDougal to date constitute the basis of the report herein reviewed.

It was deemed important to establish the original habitat of *Oenothera Lamarckiana* if practicable. During the visit of Professor de Vries to America in the summer of 1904, a visit was paid, in company with the reviewer, to the herbarium of the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences, where a sheet considered to be that of *Oenothera Lamarckiana* was found, the specimen having been collected by C. W. Short near Lexington, Kentucky. The interest of a number of southern botanists was elicited in the search for the plant, but up to the present no living wild plants of *Oenothera Lamarckiana* have been found. In connection with this search, Professor S. M. Tracy rediscovered *O. grandiflora* in the original locality of Bartram. These discoveries, coupled with

* MacDougal, D. T., assisted by Vail, A. M., Shull, G. H., and Small, J. K. Mutants and Hybrids of the *Oenotheras*. Carnegie Institution of Washington, Publication No. 24. 1905. Papers of Station for Experimental Evolution at Cold Spring Harbor, New York. No. 2.